



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NASHVILLE AREA INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE



THE NASHVILLE AREA INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE IS A "SMOKE-FREE" ENVIRONMENT

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO.	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE
NAO-MPP-05-06	05-02-05	Applications will be accepted until sufficient applications have been received.
NAO-ESEP-05-06		
POSITION TITLE, SERIES, GRADE AND SALARY	LOCATION & DUTY STATION	
Medical Support Assistant	Nashville Area Office	
GS-679-5, \$27,569 per annum	Manlius Service Unit	
(Includes Locality Pay Adjustment)	Manlius, New York	
AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All Sources		

RELOCATION: Relocation Expenses will be paid for eligible employees in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations and 41 CFR Chapter 302.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

One permanent full-time position. The incumbent of this position is subject to call back and/or standby work.

Selective Service Certification: If you are a male, born after December 31, 1959, and you want to be employed by the Federal Government, you must (subject to certain exemptions) be registered with the Selective Service System.

Must possess a valid state issued Driver's License.

In accordance with Chapter 12, Indian Health Manual, IHS Employee Immunization Program, selected candidate will be required to submit proof of immunity to the following diseases: Rubella and Measles.

Before hiring, the IHS will ask you to complete a "Declaration for Federal Employment" and/or "Declaration for Federal Employment Indian Health Service Child Care & Indian Child Care Worker Positions" to determine your suitability for federal employment, to authorize a background investigation, and to certify the accuracy of all information in your application. Under P.L. 101-630 Indian Child Protection Act, anyone who answers in the affirmative will be found ineligible and unsuitable for employment in the Indian Health Service. If you make a false statement in any part of your application, you may not be hired; you may be fired after you begin work; or you may be fined or jailed.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Incumbent will work closely with the Contract Health Service team and will be responsible for carrying out program functions to accomplish program goals and objectives. Conducts interviews, identifying and assessing eligibility for contract health care and alternate resources, educates clients about the CHS program. The incumbent determines eligibility for the program, making sure each criterion is met according to guidelines in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. The incumbent will be responsible for registering clients, and updating patient data as necessary, and setting up hard copy files including documentation of alternate resources and eligibility. Performs recordkeeping and other clerical duties such as processing incoming mail, provider invoices, referrals and communications. Assists in explaining regulations and policies to health services providers, recipients, and IHS/Nation staff. Assists in following up with the referrals to make sure clients keep their appointments, and their follow-up appointments have proper authorization. The incumbent will input patient data in RPMS, CHMIS and RCIS including patient registration system; update information as necessary; input patient referrals in the RCIS system; and create purchase orders in CHMIS for medical services. The incumbent will enter the payment information from the FI's Explanation of Benefits into the CHMIS system, adjust when necessary to keep balances current.

COMPETITIVE AND EXCEPTED SERVICE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Candidates must have had 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-4 level or four years above high school.

Specialized Experience: Experience in a medical office setting with responsibility for determining eligibility for services, working with alternate resources, and patient registration. Experience should also include having worked with patient medical records. Examples of the type of experience, which will be credited, are shown above under “Duties and Responsibilities”.

Substitution of education for experience is made in accordance with OPM Operating Manual Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions.

EVALUATION METHOD AND RANKING FACTORS: Evaluation will be made of the extent to which experience, education, training, self-development, performance appraisal, outside activities, and/or awards demonstrate that basically qualified candidates possess the Ranking Factors-KSAs described below. **Applicants must address the following KSAs on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. Knowledge of Contract Health Care procedures, eligibility requirements, and regulations.
2. Knowledge of Medicare and Medicaid eligibility requirements and procedures.
3. Knowledge of medical terminology.
4. Skill in conducting on-site patient interviews.
5. Knowledge of the Privacy Act and the HIPAA.
6. Knowledge of personal computers and computer systems.

WHO MAY APPLY:

Merit Promotion Plan (MPP) Candidates: Applications will be accepted from status eligibles (e.g., reinstatement eligibles and current permanent employees in the competitive federal service) and from current permanent IHS employees in the Excepted Service who are entitled to Indian preference.

Excepted Service Examining Plan (ESEP) Candidates: Applications will be accepted from individuals entitled to Indian preference. Current permanent IHS Excepted Service employees and Competitive Service employees or Reinstatement eligible entitled to Indian preference may also apply under the provision of the Indian Health Service Excepted Service Examining Plan.

Candidates **must indicate** whether their application is submitted under the IHS Excepted Service Examining Plan, the IHS Area Merit Promotion Plan, or both.

Applications will also be accepted from non-status candidates (individuals who have never been employed by the Federal government) and individuals eligible for non-competitive appointment (e.g., applicants eligible for appointment under the Veterans Readjustment Act, the severely handicapped, those with a 30% or more compensable service-connected disability).

Indian Preference: Indian Health Service is required by law to give absolute preference in employment to qualified Indian preference candidates.

Veterans Preference: Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous active service may apply.

Reasonable Accommodations: This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify Shirley Toribio, (505) 248-4987. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Displaced Federal Employees Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration: If you are currently a DHHS (includes IHS) employee who has received a Reduction in Force (RIF) separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation, you may be entitled to special priority selection under the DHHS (includes IHS) Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP).

Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) -- To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a current DHHS career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) or be a current IHS excepted appointment (with no time limits) tenure group II excepted/competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) and, the date of the RIF separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You must submit a copy of the RIF separation notice or CES along with your application.
2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package.

4. Be currently employed by DHHS (includes IHS) in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
5. File your application by the Vacancy Announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Meet the basic qualifications for the position, including any documented selective factors, physical requirements with any reasonable accommodation, and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position without undue interruption.

Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) – If you are a displaced federal employee you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a displaced federal employee. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as RIF separation notice, a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status with your application package. The following categories of candidates are considered displaced employees:
 - A. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employees who:
 - 1) Received a specific RIF separation notice; or
 - 2) Separated because of a compensable injury, whose compensation has been terminated, and whose former agency certifies that it is unable to place; or
 - 3) Retired with a disability and whose disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or
 - 4) Upon receipt of a RIF separation notice retired on the effective date of the RIF and submits a Standard Form 50 that indicates "Retirement in lieu of RIF;" or
 - 5) Retired under the discontinued service retirement option; or
 - 6) Was separated because he/she declined a transfer of function or directed reassignment to another commuting area.

OR

- B. Former Military Reserve or National Guard Technicians who are receiving a special Office of Personnel Management (OPM) disability retirement annuity under section 8337(h) or 8456 of Title 5 United States Code.
2. Be applying for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement).
4. Occupy or be displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
5. File your application by the Vacancy Announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Be rated well qualified for the position, including any documented selective factors, quality ranking factors, physical requirements with any reasonable accommodation, and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry.

Well-Qualified Definition: Surplus or displaced Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) employees may exercise selection priority for DHHS vacancies in their local commuting area if they apply directly for the vacancy and are determined to be well-qualified.

If filing an application for a noncompetitive action when no official vacancy announcement is being announced, "well-qualified" means that you meet the minimum qualification and eligibility requirements of the position (including any selective factors), and can perform the duties of the position without undue interruption to organizational operations.

If filing an application under a vacancy announcement, "well-qualified" means you meet the minimum qualification and eligibility requirements of the position (including any selective factors), and meet the cut-off score to be referred to the selection official. This score is derived as a natural break resulting from the rating and ranking of all qualified applicants to determine the extent to which candidates possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) required to succeed in the position.

➤ Only U.S. citizens may be appointed to the Competitive Service.

WHERE TO APPLY:

Applications MUST be submitted by close of business of the closing date to the following address:

Albuquerque Area Indian Health Service
Division of Human Resources
5300 Homestead Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

For copies of vacancy announcements, contact the Division of Human Resources at (505) 248-4510. Vacancy announcements can be downloaded from the IHS website at www.ihs.gov or Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website at www.usajobs.opm.gov. We do not FAX vacancy announcements.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:

- **Verification of Indian Preference:** Applicants who wish to receive Indian Preference **MUST** submit the **BIA Form 4432**, Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in BIA and IHS Only. This certifies the applicant as Indian as defined by the IHS Circular No. 87-3, dated July 9, 1987. **Indian Preference will not be given unless the BIA Form 4432 is attached to the application/Resume.**
- The OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment. Form may be downloaded from: <http://forms.psc.gov/forms/OF/Of-306.pdf>
- IHS Child Care and Child Care Worker Position Statement
<http://www.ihs.gov/JobCareerDevelop/CareerCenter/Vacancy/forms/PL101.PDF>
- Statement Authoring Review of Application.
- Must provide a copy of valid state issued Driver's License.
- Supplemental Questionnaire statement addressing the Knowledge, Skill and Ability questions.
- See, '**How to Apply**', on the last page, for additional information.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Persons who submit incomplete applications will be given credit only for the information they provide and may not, therefore, receive full credit for their veteran preference determination, Indian preference, education, training and/or experience.

All material submitted for consideration under this announcement becomes the property of Human Resources and is subject to verification. Therefore, careful attention should be given to the information provided. Fraudulent statements or any form of misrepresentation in the application process could result in loss of consideration for this position and/or a determination of unsuitability for federal employment.

Additional or alternate selections may be made within 90 days from the date the certificate was issued if the position becomes vacant; if filling an identical additional position in the same geographic location; if the qualification requirements are the same and if an Indian preference eligible is on the certificate. If an Indian preference eligible is not on the certificate, the vacancy must be re-announced.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Except for Indian preference, consideration will be given without regard to any non-merit factor such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, partisan politics, physical or mental handicap, marital status, age, membership or non-membership in any employee organization, or sexual orientation.

HUMAN RESOURCES CLEARANCE:

Human Resources Specialist

Date

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL APPLICATIONS:

"I hereby authorize any and all persons involved directly and/or indirectly in the selection process to review my application."

Signature of Applicant

HOW TO APPLY

The Federal Government does not require a standard application form for most jobs, but certain information is needed to evaluate your qualifications and determine if you meet legal requirements for Federal employment.

Optional Application for Federal Employment – Form Number OF-612 www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of0612.pdf	Application for Federal Employment Form Number SF-171 http://forms.psc.gov/forms/SF/SF-171.pdf	Resume or Other written application format with information requested below. www.opm.gov/forms/pdfimage/of0510.pdf
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If your resume or application does not provide all the information we request, you may lose consideration for a job. Applicants who submit incomplete applications will be given credit ONLY for the information they provide and may not, therefore, receive full credit for their Veteran Preference determination, Indian Preference, education, training and/or experience.

Your resume or application format MUST contain the following information. FAILURE TO INCLUDE ANY OF THE INFORMATION LISTED BELOW MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF CONSIDERATION FOR THIS POSITION. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL NOT BE SOLICITED BY THIS OFFICE.

JOB INFORMATION

Announcement number, title and grade of the job for which you are applying.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name, mailing address (with ZIP codes), day and evening telephone numbers (with Area codes).

Social Security Number.

Country of citizenship.

EDUCATION

High School (name, city, state, ZIP code if known), and date of diploma or GED.

College and/or universities (name, city, state ZIP code if known), majors, type and year of any degrees received (if no degree show total semester or quarter hours earned).

To obtain educational credit, applicants must submit a copy of all college transcripts.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Copy of latest Personnel Action (SF-50B) if current or former Federal employee.

Highest Federal civilian grade held (give job series and dates held).

Work experience (paid and unpaid)

Job title (include series and grade if Federal job)

Duties and accomplishments

Employer's name and address

Supervisor's name and telephone number

Starting and ending dates (month and year)

Hours per week

Salary

Indicate if we may contact your current Supervisor.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Give dates but do not send documents unless requested.

Job related training courses

Job related skills, i.e., computer software/hardware, tools, typing speed

Job related certificates and licenses (if you are a licensed medical professional, submit copy of license to practice)

Honors, awards, special accomplishments, i.e., publications, memberships, in professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, and performance awards.

KSA's

Submit the following documents along with your chosen application format if you are in one of the following categories:

COMMISSIONED OFFICER	INDIAN PREFERENCE	VETERAN PREFERENCE	FEDERAL EMPLOYEE
Current Billet description	Verification of Indian Preference for employment, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Form 4432.	Certificates of Release or discharge from Active Duty, VA form DD-214, and/or Application for 10-point Veterans Preference, Form SF-15.	Copy of latest Notification of Personnel Action, SF-50
Most recent "Commissioned Officers Effectiveness Report".			Copy of current performance appraisal.
Child Care Statement Form	Current Albuquerque Area employees may state that proof of Indian Preference is on file in the Official Personnel Folder	To receive preference if your service began October 15, 1976, you must have a Campaign Badge, Expeditionary Medal, or a service connect disability.	Priority consideration will not be given to DISPLACED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, unless a copy of the appropriate documentation such as a RIF separation letter, a letter from OPM or your agency documentation showing your priority consideration status is attached to the application.
Copies of Licensures	Preference will not be given unless a copy of the BIA Form 4432 is attached to the application.	Preference will not be given unless a copy of the DD-214 (with appropriate dates) is attached to the application.	

Addendum to Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306)
Indian Health Service
Child Care & Indian Child Care Worker Positions

Item 15a. Agency Specific Questions

Name: _____ **Social Security Number:** _____
(Please Print)

Job Title in Announcement: _____ **Announcement Number:** _____

Section 231 of the Crime Control Act 1990, Public Law 101-647, requires that employment applications for Federal child care positions contain a question asking whether the individual has ever been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child and for the disposition of the arrest or charge.

Section 408 of the Miscellaneous Indian Legislation, Public Law 101-630, contains a related requirement for positions in the Department of Health and Human Services that involve regular contact with or control over Indian children. The agency must ensure that persons hired for these positions have not been found guilty of or pleaded nolo contendere or guilty to certain crimes.

To assure compliance with the above laws, the following questions are added to the Declaration for Federal Employment:

- 1) Have you ever been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child? YES_____ NO_____
[If "YES," provide the date, explanation of the violation, disposition of the arrest or charge, place of occurrence, and the name and address of the police department or court involved.]
- 2) Have you ever been found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere (no contest) or guilty to, any felonious or misdemeanor offense under Federal, State, or tribal law involving crimes of violence; sexual assault, molestation, exploitation, contact or prostitution; or crimes against persons; or offenses committed against children? YES_____ NO_____
[If "YES," provide the date, explanation of the violation, disposition of the arrest or charge, place of occurrence, and the name address of the police department or court involved.]

I certify that (1) my response to these questions is made under penalty of perjury, which is punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 or 5 years imprisonment, or both; and (2) I have received notice that a criminal check will be conducted. I understand my right to obtain a copy of any criminal history report made available to the Indian Health Service and my right to challenge the accuracy and completeness of any information contained in the report.

Applicant's Signature (sign in ink)

Date

Public Burden Statement: In accordance with Paperwork Reduction Act (5 CFR 1320.8 (b)(3), a Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Respondents must be informed (on the reporting instrument, in instructions, or in a cover letter) the reasons for which the information will be collected; the way the information will be used to further the proper performance of the functions of the agency; whether responses to the collection of the information are voluntary, required to obtain a benefit (citing authority), or mandatory (citing authority); and the nature and extent of confidentiality to be provided, if any (citing authority). Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the necessary data, and completing and reviewing the collection information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information to the IHS PRA Information Collection Clearance Staff, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20852.
Please do not send completed data collection instruments to this address.